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REA ROLL CALL



FOR REA MEN AND WOMEN IN SERVICE

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Sept. 4, 1944

O'DONNELL WRITES ADMINISTRATOR LOU ROLAND GALLYHOOS

ABOUT AUSTRALIAN INTEREST IN RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

FOR USAFI, THE WORLD'S LARGEST CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL

Administrator Slattery has received a letter from T/5 Al O'Donnell, telling all about Al's recent visit with A. C. Sandow, an official of the Electrification Commission of the State of Victoria, Australia.

"Mr. Sandow spent several hours with me at his office and later invited me to tea. We discussed the various phases of rural electrification in the United States and Australia, past, present and future. I had a chance to learn a lot of information and statistics relative to the program in this country and I am looking forward to making a report on that subject upon my return to REA."

ADMIRALTY FOOD ADMIRABLE

SAYS CHARLIE LEWIS

The boys and girls under Uncle Sam's wing never need worry about food, says T/5 Charles S. Lewis in a V-Mail letter sent from the Admiralty Islands.

"The chow here," says Charlie, "is good, as it is everywhere I've been in this man's Army. They serve us chicken about once a week and ice cream twice and sometimes three times a week."

T/5 Lewis reports that the rain constitutes quite a problem. "It has been raining day and night without any let-up for the past few days. This helps to keep us cool, though, so I guess we can bear it allright."

He is on military furlough from the Finance Division.

Copies of SPAN, enclosed with the Roll Call, are supplied by the REA Athletic Association.

The United States Armed Forces Institute is the world's biggest correspondence school, and Pvt. Lou Roland is doing his part in keeping it that way.

Lou's in the Education Office of the Morale Service Branch and his duties consist of interviewing soldiers interested in the USAFI. He also makes speeches to large groups of servicemen on the Army's Education Program.

Says Lou: "The talk in our office is veddy cultured. The fellows have oodles of degrees. (One has four degrees, including the Sorbonne and German universities.) Many of them are former teachers and college instructors and the whole business is immediately under a WAC 1st Lt. who runs things nicely by letting us all do as we please. The only trouble is that this sort of thing will leave me completely un-used to the good old business of KP, walking guard, and the rest, which I'll be resuming once I leave this camp."

LT BLANK NOTICES BAD WIRING

CONSTRUCTION ON REA CO-OPERATIVE

The Roll Call's medal for observation goes to 1st Lt. Blank, on military leave from Design and Construction, who noticed a defect in an REA co-operative line near his camp. He described the faulty construction in a letter to the Roll Call and suggested that D&C may be interested. We forwarded his letter to the proper official who said he would write the co-op about it at once.

All of which goes to show that you can take the boy out of REA but you can't take REA out of the boy.

COLUMN WRITE!!

WHEN THEY START TO SELL BEER, IT'S TIME
TO MOVE FORWARD

Capt. Clarence J. Bush was recently transferred to an Australian base that was bombed out at the beginning of the war. He's an Engineering Officer and he's been down under a year and a half. . . Lt. Gordon R. Messmer was top man in the first month of classroom work in the Special Air Projects School at San Clement Island. . . Nat Levinson soon pulls up stakes at Gary, Ind., and heads west. . . Another note from Phil Widman says his outfit is 50 miles from Paris. It was dated August 13. Gen. Patton didn't waste any time, did he, Phil? . . . Don Basler says they haven't asked for his ideas on the robot bomb yet. . . Julius Strojny is now in Boot Camp at Great Lakes. . . REA Blackstones will be interested to hear about "The Legalite", a new one-page one-copy weekly newspaper that Ann Hoff-elmeyer publishes and posts on the fifth floor bulletin-board. The typed sheet is sponsored by the Labor-Management Committee of the Associate Solicitor's Office. . . CPO Eugene Meyer got his picture printed in the Vallejo (Calif.) Times-Herald when he attended a USO Party there. . . Wedding bells rang for Sgt. Tom Ronan in England recently. Tom asks to have his name added to the list of happily married men. . . Do you know what a 2-watt 18,000 ohms resistor is? Lt. Will Lewis pinned one on his shirt and told everyone who asked that it was a special insignia for Radar Officers. Several men, including one Commander, almost believed him. . . Blanche Northwood's husband, Larry, got a commendation for his work on the "AAF Beacon", a mimeographed daily. . . To REA staff members who call the Roll Call asking for location of certain APO numbers: Sorry, but we don't have that info. Our guess is that it's rather confidential.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION NEWS AVAILABLE FREE

The response to our offer to put any REA servicemen and women on the mailing list for the REA magazine, "Rural Electrification News", was gratifying. All requests received to date have been taken care of; other REAers in uniform can get their names on the list merely by writing the Roll Call, REA, St. Louis 2, Missouri.

Lt. Dave Askegaard, stationed somewhere in the So. Pacific, knows when it's time to start packing his grips to get ready for an advance. When they start selling beer, he says, civilization is catching up and an order to move forward will most certainly follow. Another indication that things are getting too settled at Dave's base was the appearance of a USO Show. And, too, cigarettes are being sold, whereas in forward areas they are given away free.

He adds that he is looking forward to seeing Tokyo, and he hopes that it's not burned to the ground before he gets there.

RAY REX WARMS UP AT CLAIBORNE FOR OVER-SEAS ASSIGNMENT

S/Sgt. Ray Rex, Tech Standardite, is now with the PARC of the ASETC in Camp Claiborne, La. (Translation: Pre-activation and Replacement Command of the Army Service Forces Training Center.)

In commenting on the Louisiana humidity and soaring temperatures, Ray tells the one about the G. I. who put in a year's service at Claiborne, then died and went to the place where they don't play harps.

"Darling," he wrote his wife, "Please send me some blankets; I'm freezing to death."

LONG DAYS IN ENGLAND AMAZE PFC. J. KELLY

The most surprising thing about Great Britain, says former Central Filer John Kelly, is the length of the day.

"It doesn't get dark until about eleven o'clock at night," Pfc Kelly reports.

"They must have triple daylight-saving time over here. . ."

"The roads are narrow, the houses small; everything seems to be built on a midget scale. Altogether it's very picturesque."

GOING UP

Lt. Edgar H. Parsons, USNR
Capt. Clarence J. Bush
Flight Officer Leslie J. Gruner
Lt. Gordon R. Messmer
Cpl. Albert O'Donnell
Lt. Howard G. Hembrece
Lt. Joseph H. Lang